

Abstract

A diffractive device has a surface relief structure which, when illuminated by a light source, generates one or more diffraction images which are observable from particular ranges of viewing angles around the device. The device includes background diffractive structural elements and interstitial diffractive structural elements. The interstitial elements are interspersed between the background elements such that the diffractive action of the background elements is modulated by the interstitial elements, with differing interstitial element configuration in differing parts of the surface relief structure producing differing diffraction effects in corresponding parts of the diffraction images.

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